

7 December 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: [redacted]

SUBJECT : COINS Training Proposal [redacted]

1. Per your request, I phoned [redacted] following your telecon with him. His view is:

a. He has sent a draft memo to the COINS CIA Sub-System Manager, [redacted] in OPPB, to ascertain its acceptability. This memo would be signed by [redacted] and be directed to the DCI. The substance could be a request that the Information Science Center (ISC) staff, CIA/OTR, prepare a course outline, in detail, for training community personnel to use COINS terminals and procedures.

b. [redacted] argues that this is an acceptable procedure since the Information Science Center was established to perform a community service. Further, to date COINS has operated by means of cooperation and support which the COINS Project Management Office could beg, borrow, or steal by importuning the Sub-System Managers.

2. [redacted] that such a request should go from [redacted] to ASD(I) and the latter should initiate the request to DCI. Neil's response to [redacted] at my request, also indicated that the USIB/IHC should have an opportunity to look at any training plan.

a. [redacted] points out, and [redacted] agrees, that the detail required to prepare the training plan proposal is quite extensive and would take a not inconsiderable effort by ISC staff. [redacted] believes a more authoritative request is needed to lay on such an effort, particularly these days when resources are scarce.

b. [redacted] also is aware that if such a proposal were prepared by ISC, Hicken's next step would be to call on CIA to carry out the plan and fund it. [redacted] told me on the phone that he did not have FY-74 or FY-75 funds for this.) [redacted] would attempt to achieve this through the Sub-System Manager level communication route.

3. My opinion:

a. [redacted] seeks to continue to play by the old rules -- get help wherever you can find it and operate informally wherever possible.

b. In my view, the work involved and the implied follow-through that [redacted] is likely to call for are more than the old informal system will bear. Further, we know that ASD(I) is trying to corral [redacted] to work through them, and we should not circumvent this in a case which involves a significant new effort and new policy.

c. The reference to IHC as a mechanism to look over any training plan is not intended to impose another layer of bureaucracy on Hicken, as he says he fears. My thought was that IHC can support a reasonable training proposal by providing a means for community endorsement, and IHC action need not be complex or dilatory. After all, if IHC is to mean anything, it should have an opportunity to be involved, and it has historically been involved in information science training. It was mainly the work of General Taylor that saved the ISC after DIA could no longer fund it and got it transferred to CIA/OTR.

*Why don't
I ask
IHC to
study the
need & cost?*



AC/IHC

STAT

Original - Addressee

- 1 - IHC Subject: COINS Training
- 1 - IHC Reading File
- 1-- NCF chrono